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SONIC™

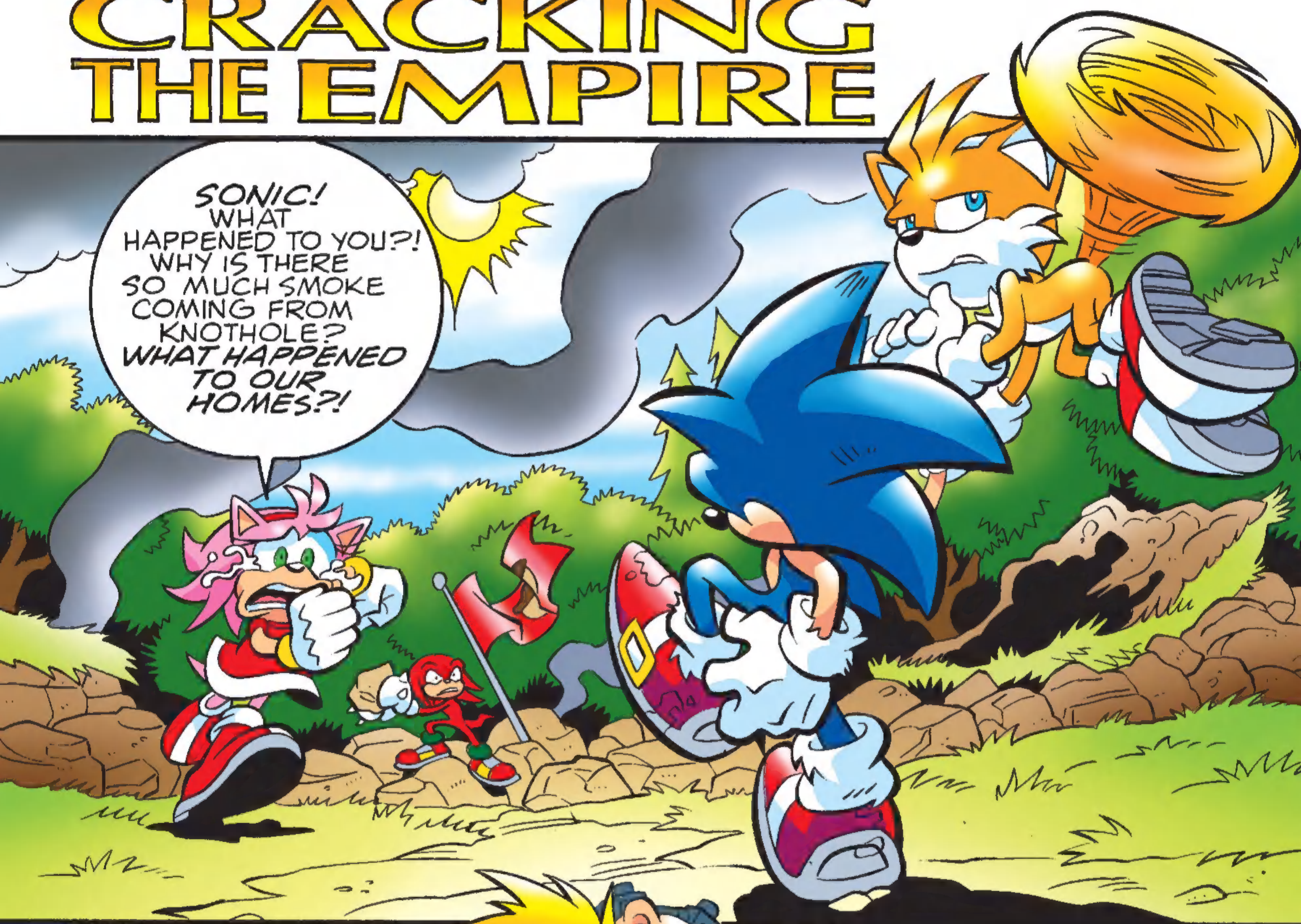
THE HEDGEHOG

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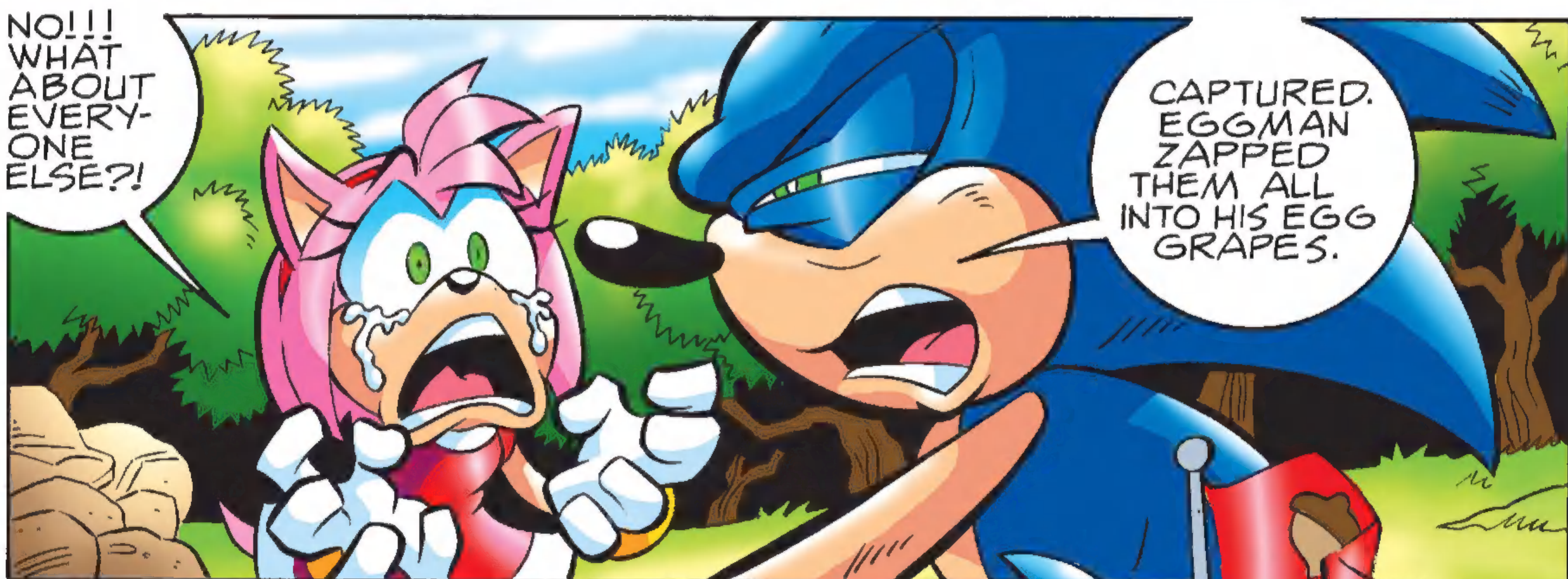
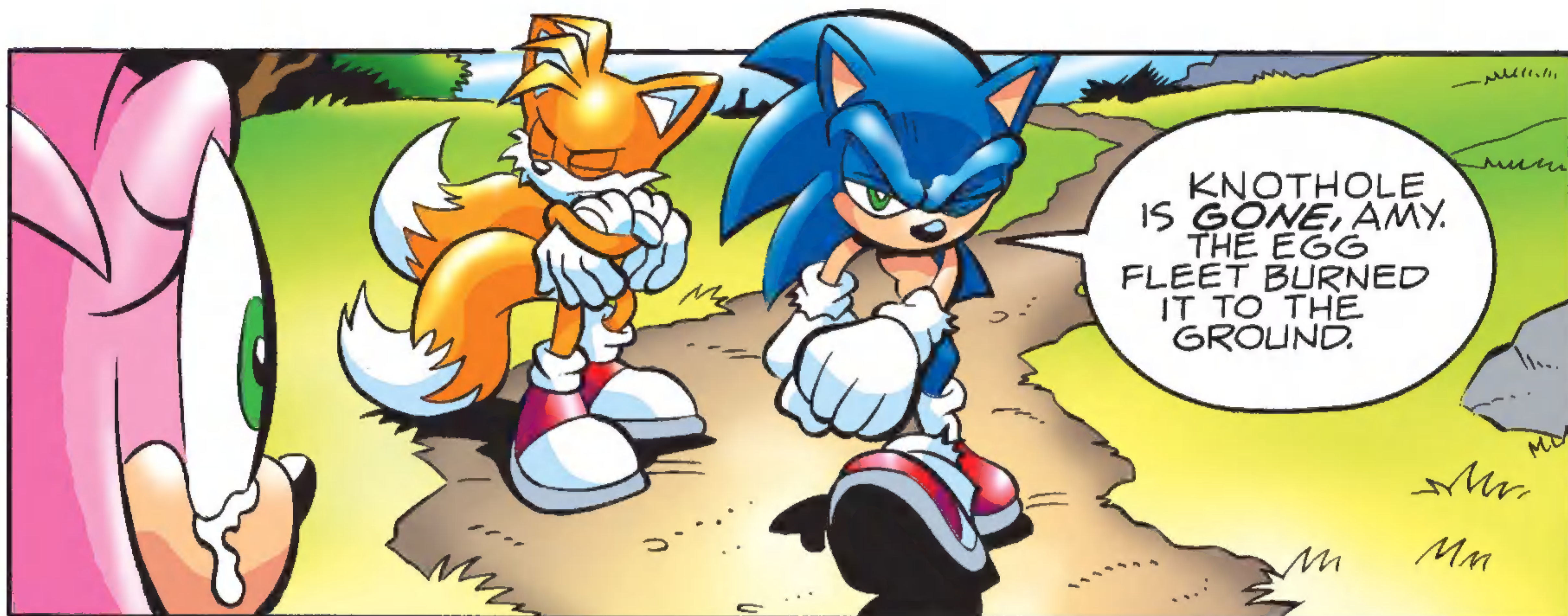


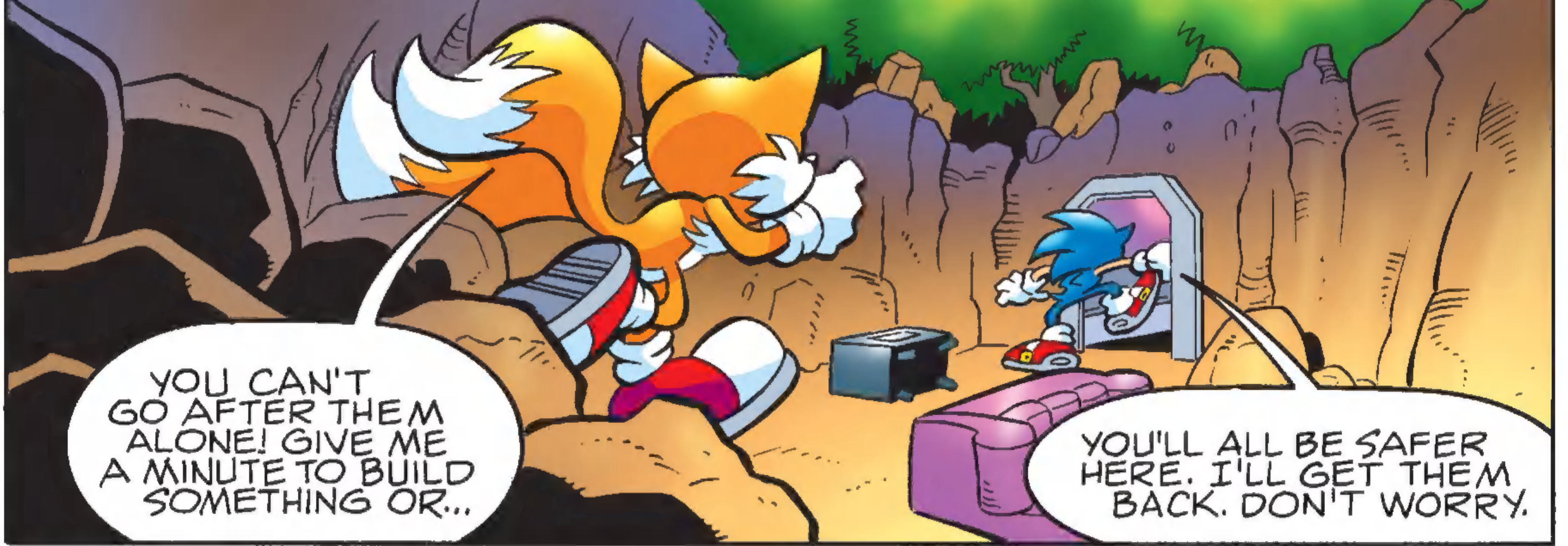
Tracy
Yardley! Jim
Amash JOHNSON

CRACKING THE EMPIRE



Writer: IAN FLYNN • Pencils: TRACY YARDLEY! • Inks: JIM AMASH • Letters: JOHN WORKMAN • Colors: JASON JENSEN
Cover: YARDLEY! • AMASH • JENSEN
Editor: MIKE PELLERITO • Managing Editor: VICTOR GORELICK • Editor-in-Chief: RICHARD GOLDWATER
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YOU CAN'T GO AFTER THEM ALONE! GIVE ME A MINUTE TO BUILD SOMETHING OR...

YOU'LL ALL BE SAFER HERE. I'LL GET THEM BACK. DON'T WORRY.



YOU'LL HAVE TO DEAL WITH THE EGG FLEET **PLUS** ALL OF HIS BADNIK ARMY, NOT TO MENTION HIS SUPER BATTLE SUIT!

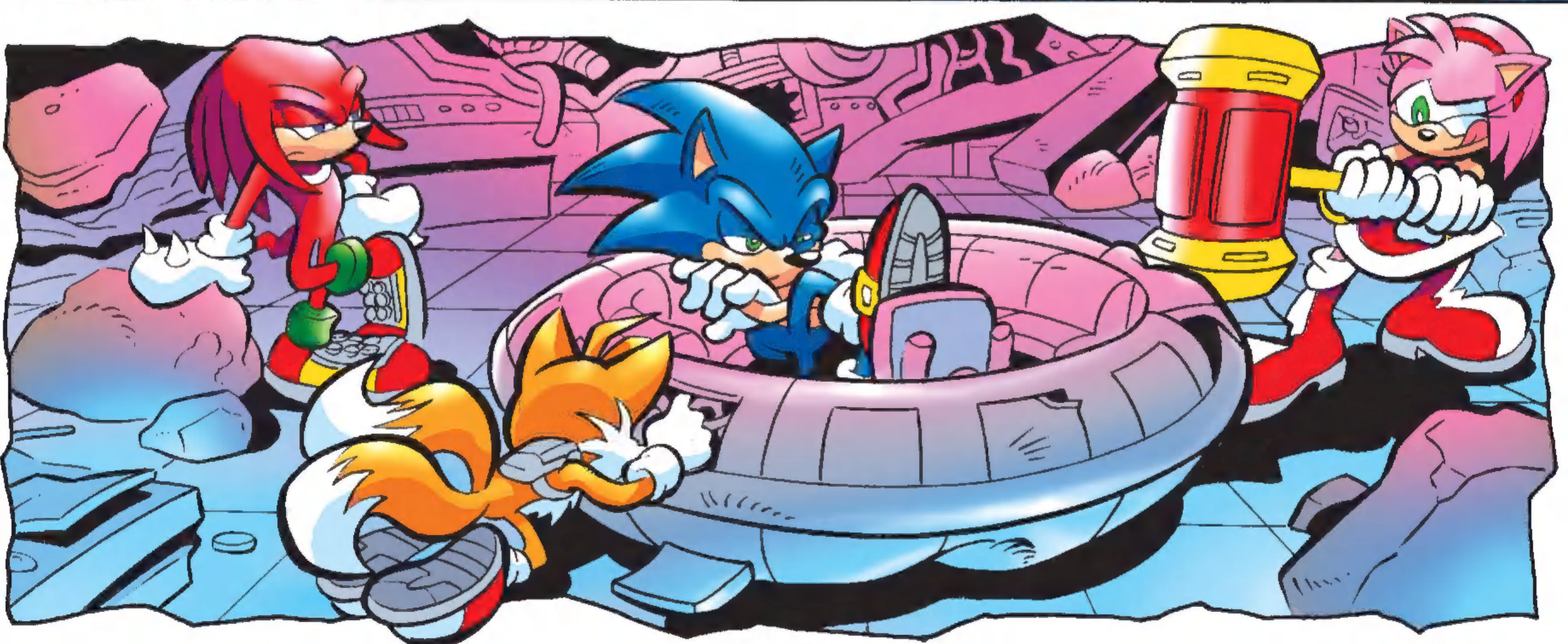
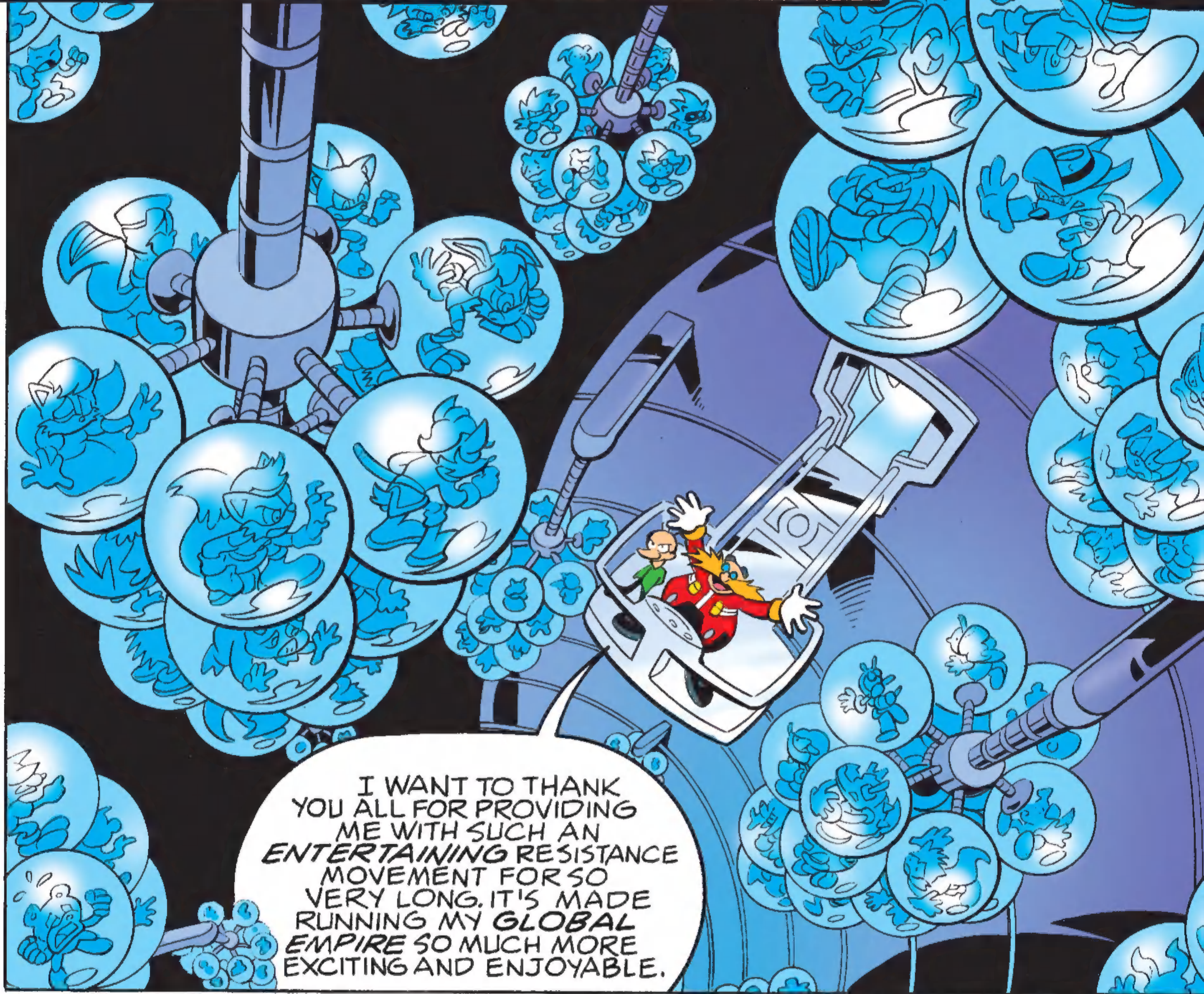
TAILS! ...I'VE GOT THIS!

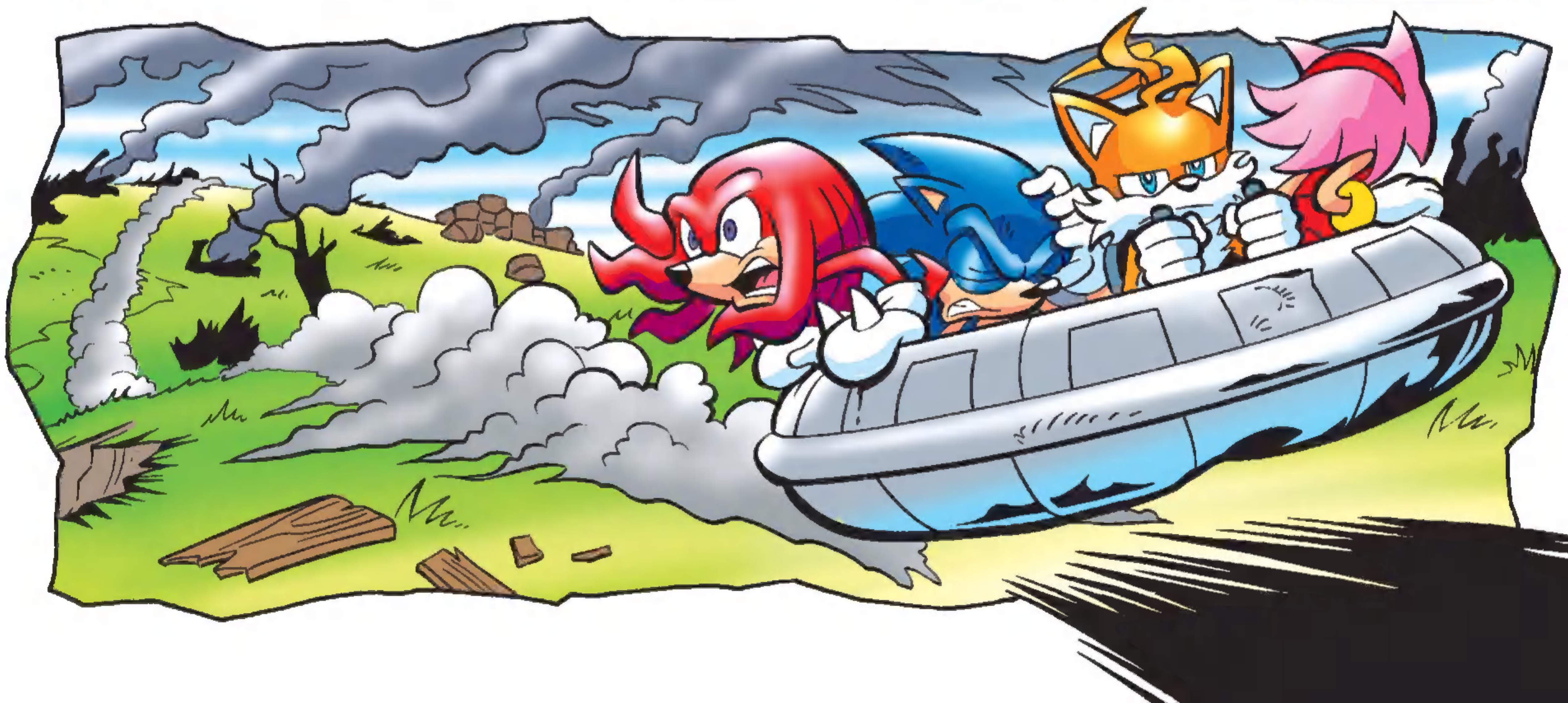
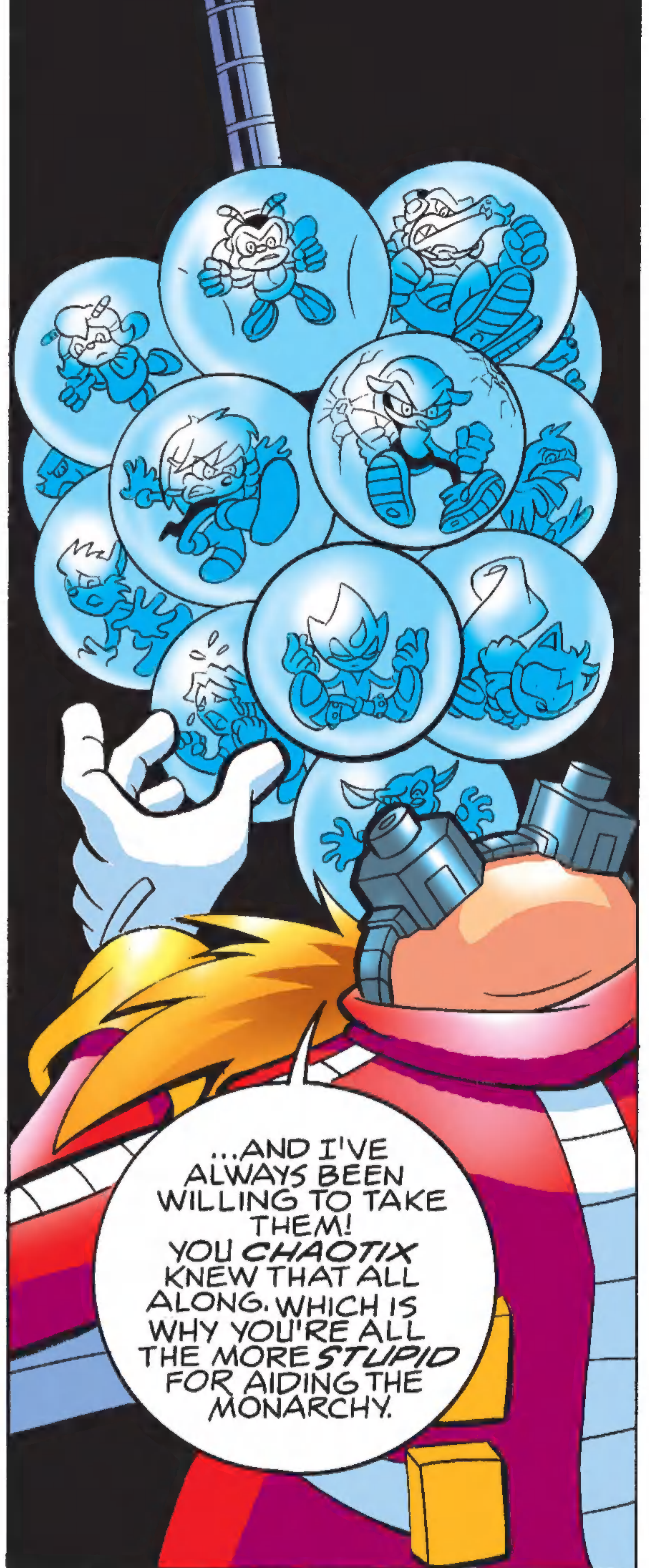


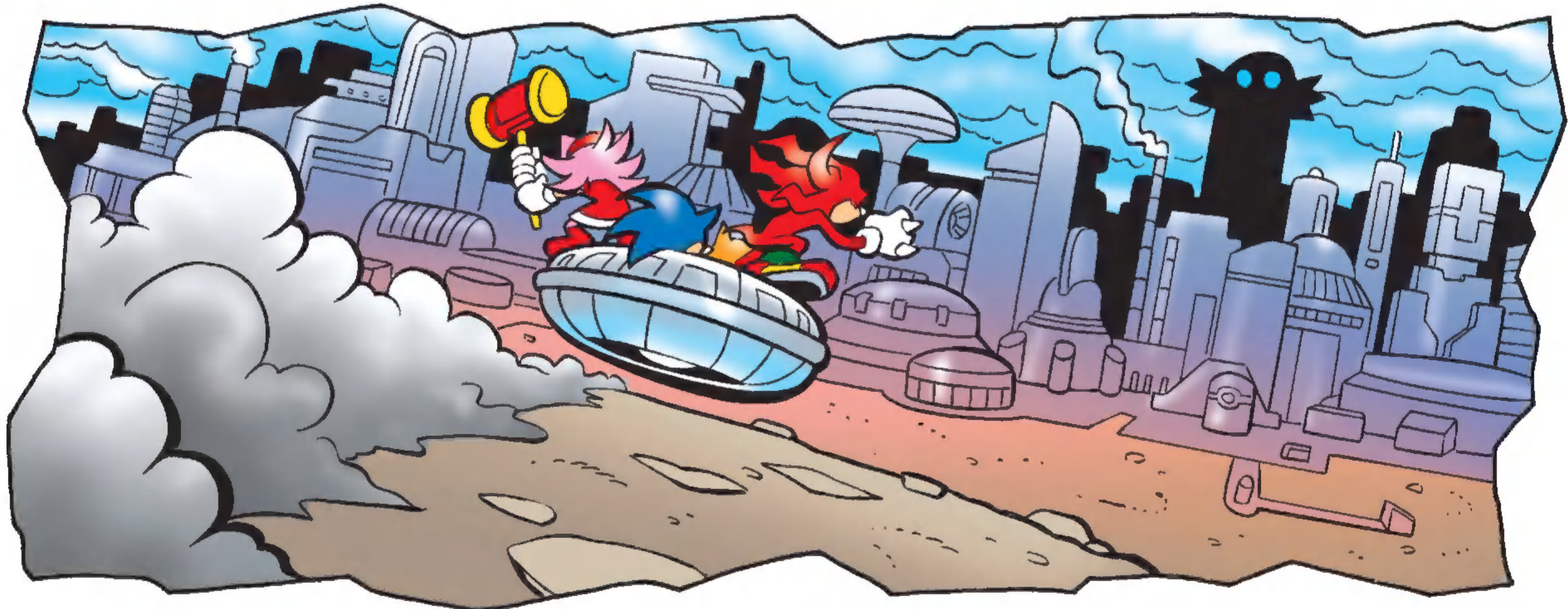
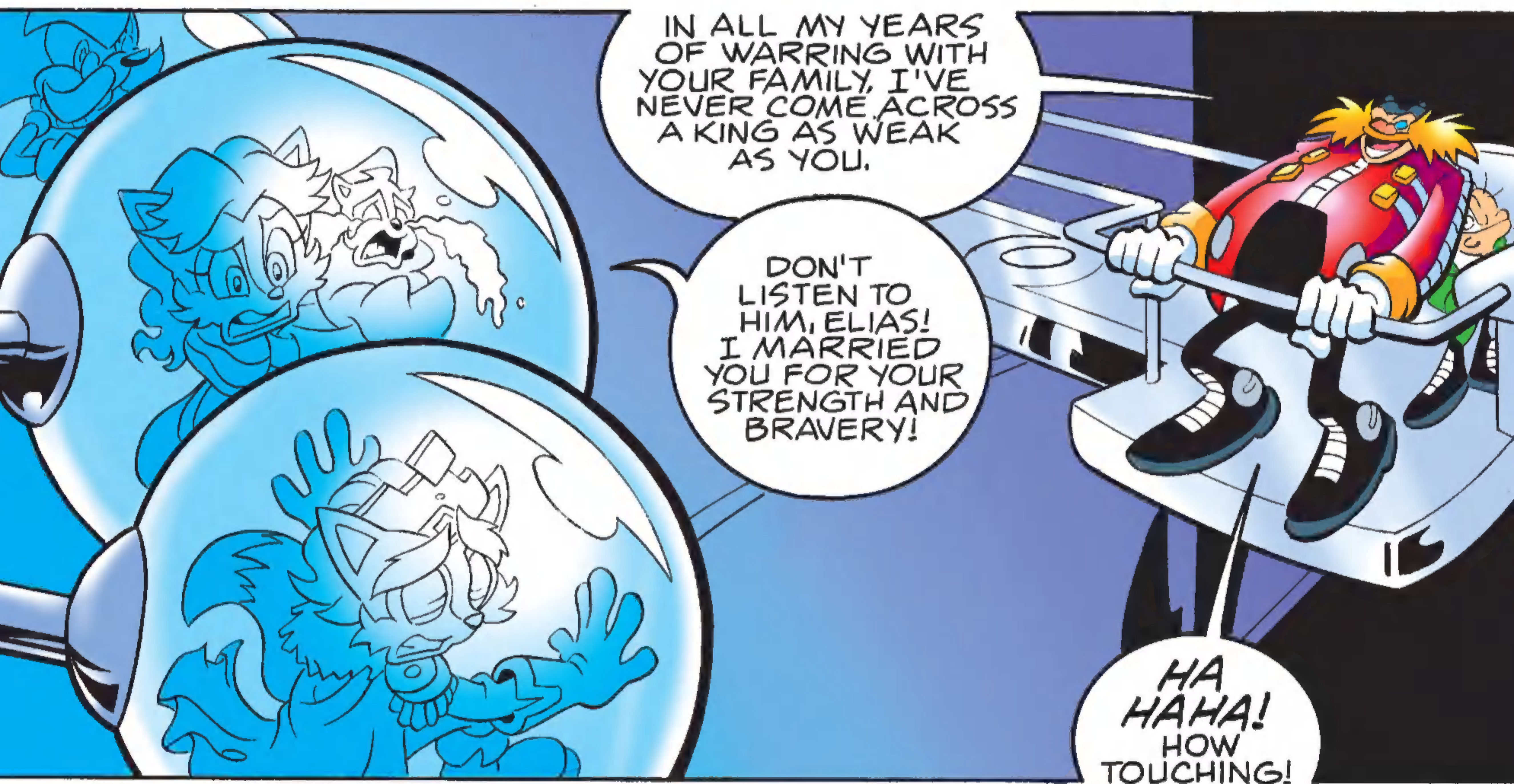
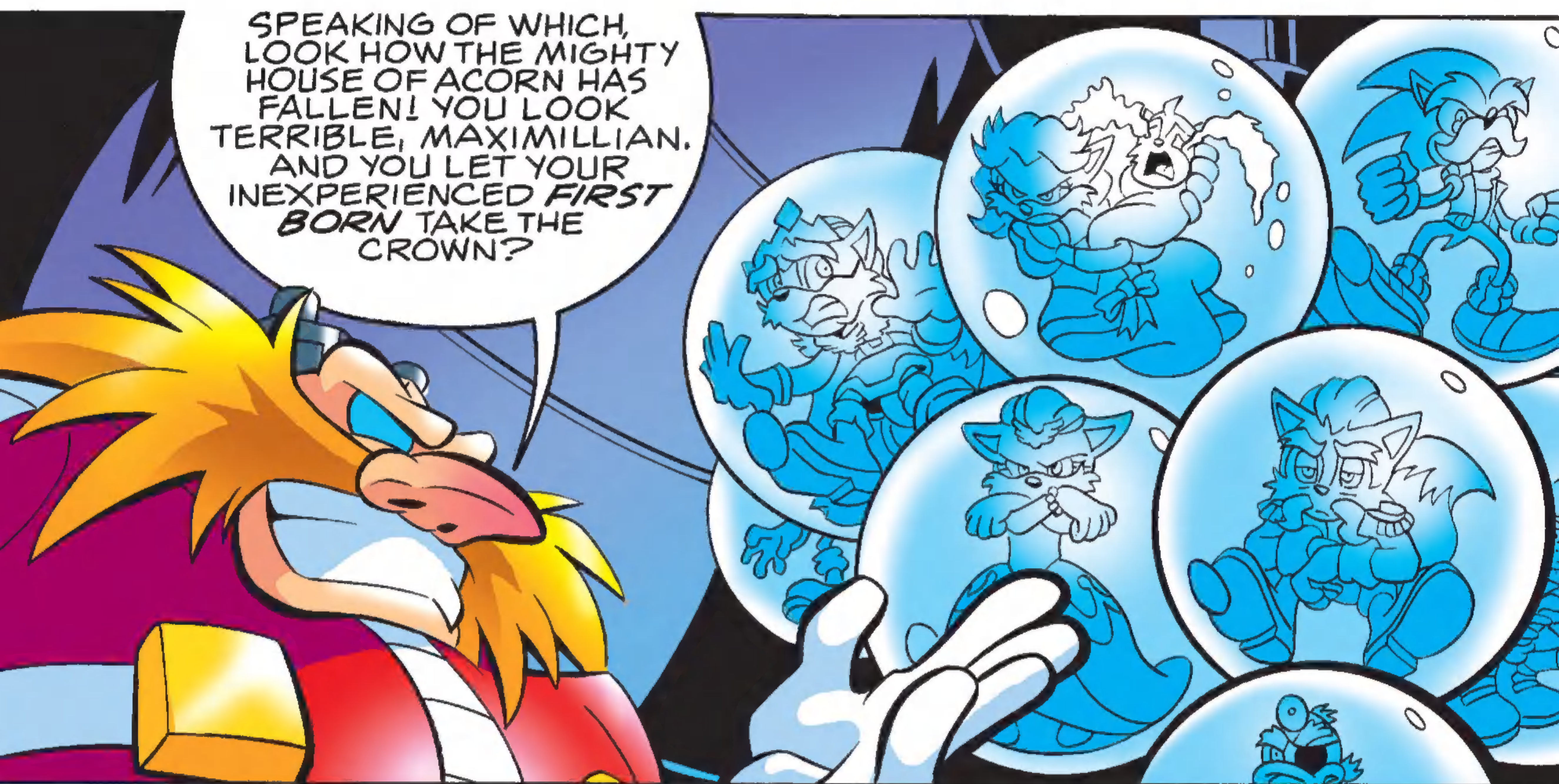
LIKE YOU **HAD** KNOTHOLE A FEW MINUTES AGO? YEAH, YOU **REALLY** HELPED A LOT THERE! OR DOES YOUR **PLAN** HINGE ON YOU GETTING YOUR **BUTT KICKED** AGAIN?!

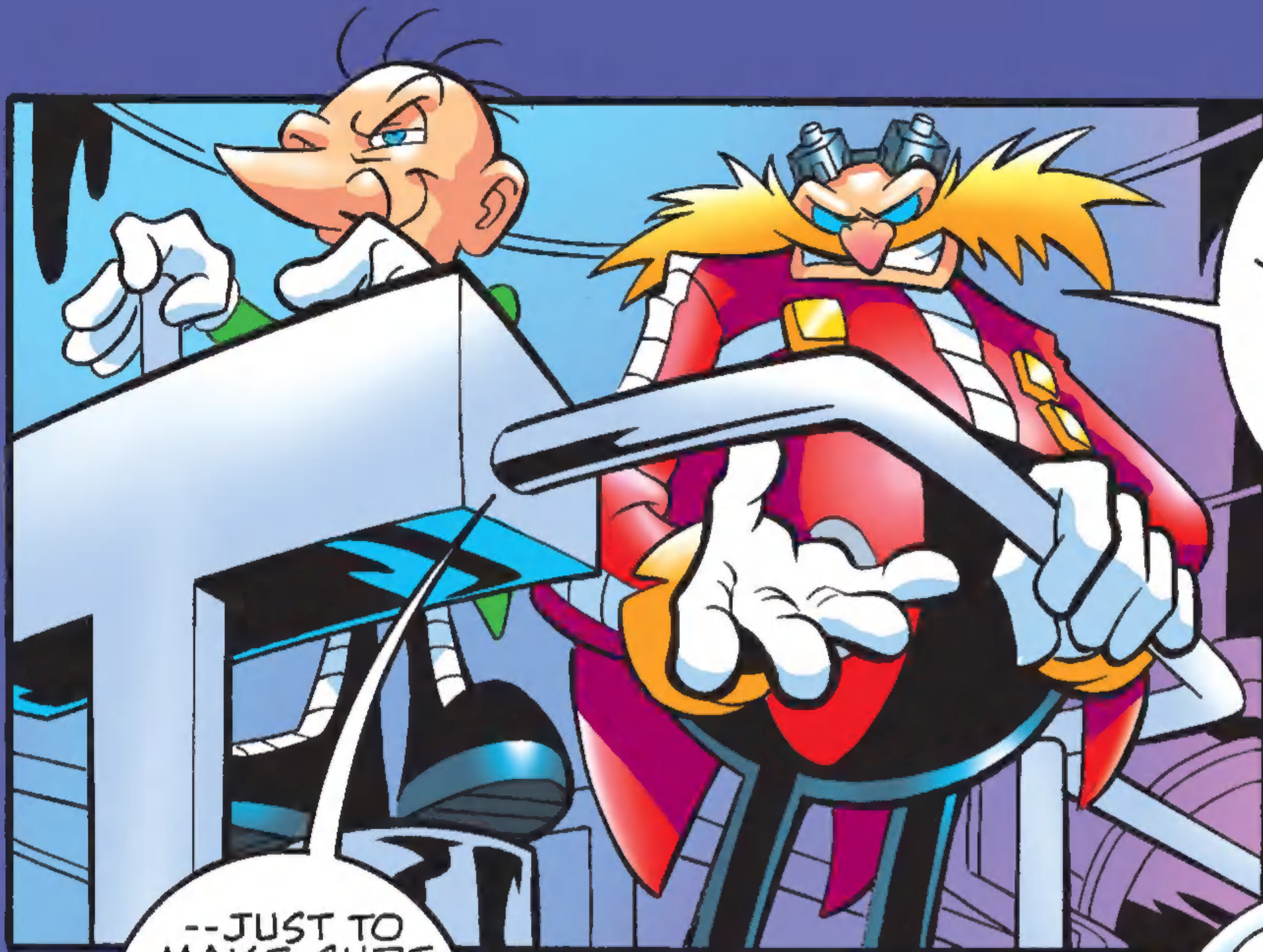


IF I MAY INTERRUPT ... I RECOMMEND WE POSTPONE THE INFIGHTING UNTIL AFTER THE RESCUE MISSION. IF ANYONE IS INTERESTED, I HAVE A PLAN.







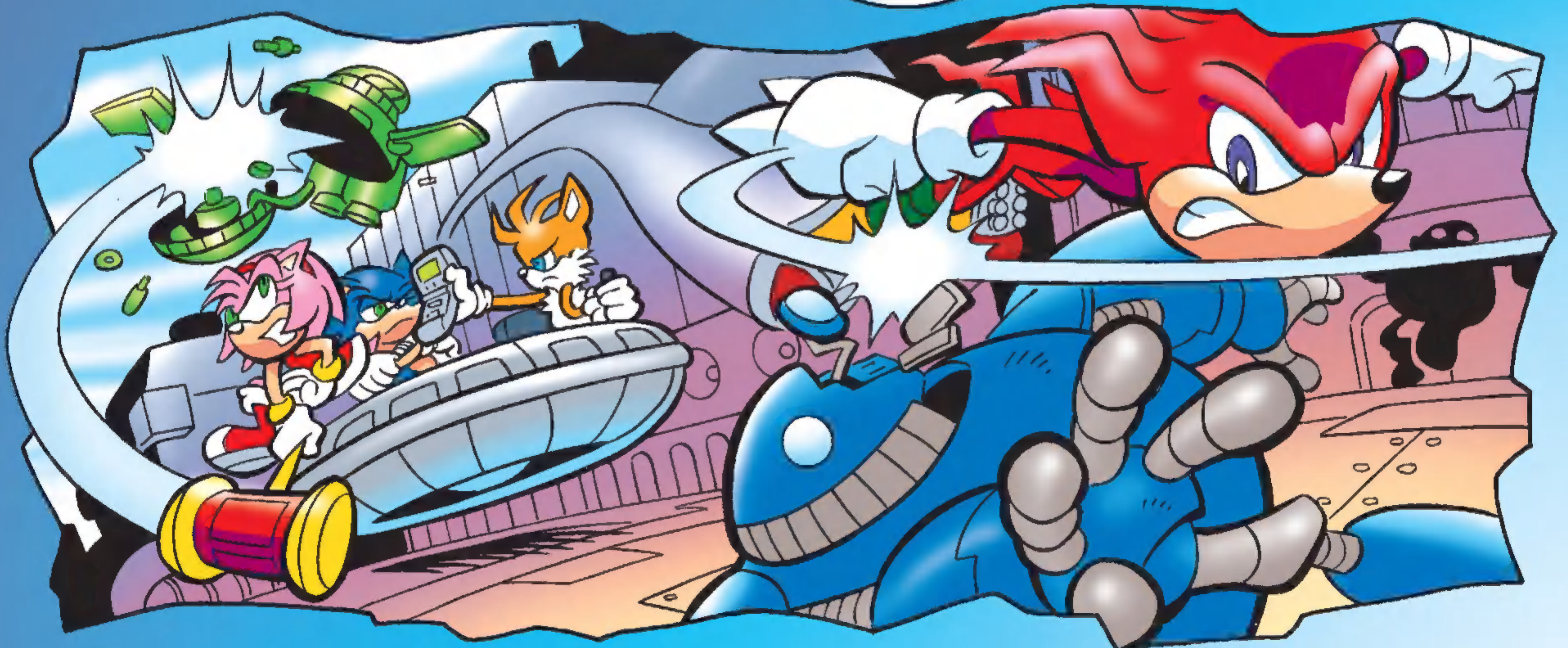
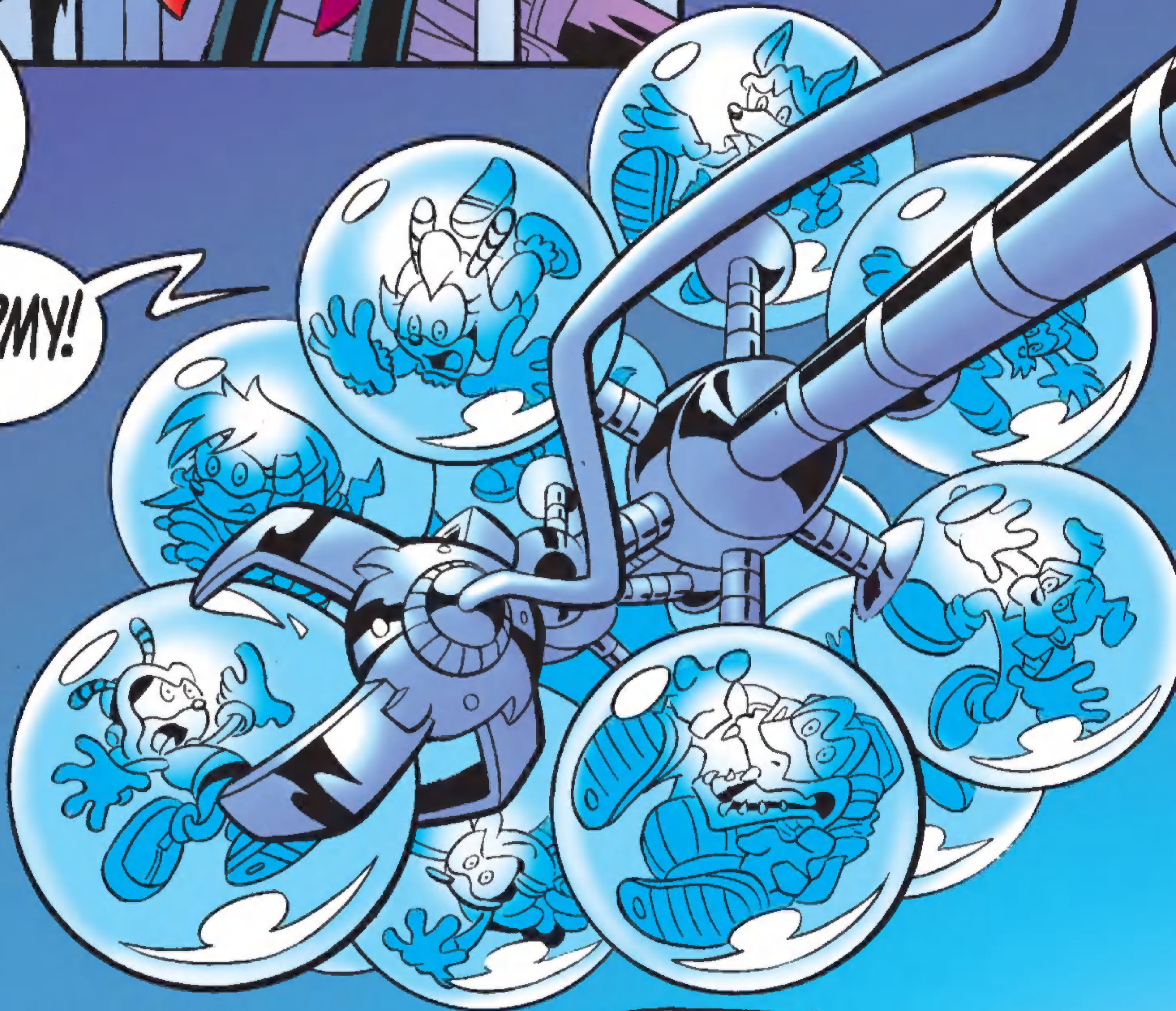


NOW, THEN...
I'M GOING TO
DEMONSTRATE TO
YOU ALL JUST WHAT
THESE EGG GRAPES
CAN DO. THE
PROCESS WILL BE
ACCELERATED,
BUT NOT LESS
POTENT--

--JUST TO
MAKE SURE
YOU'RE ALL
GOOD AND
TERRIFIED
BEFORE
THE END!

CHARMY!

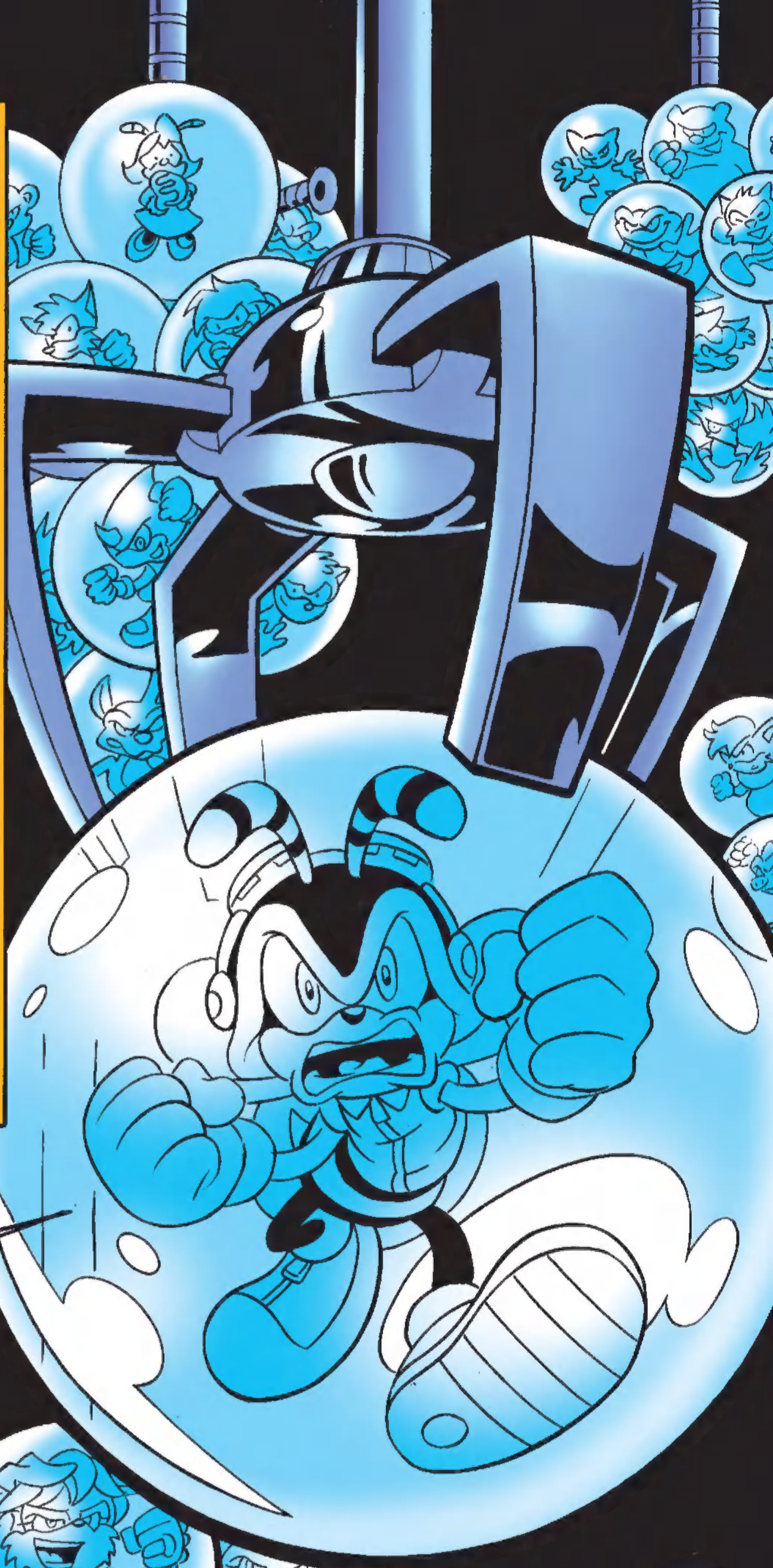
I--IT'LL
BE OKAY,
SAFFRON.



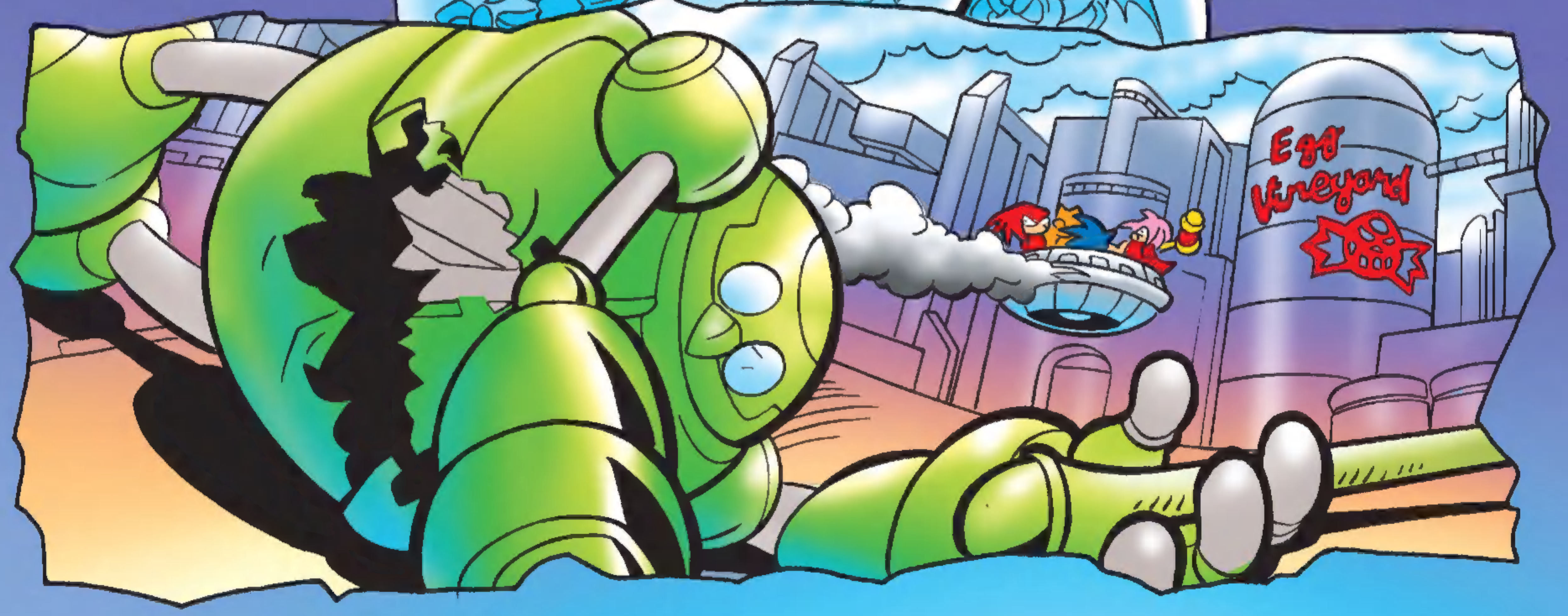


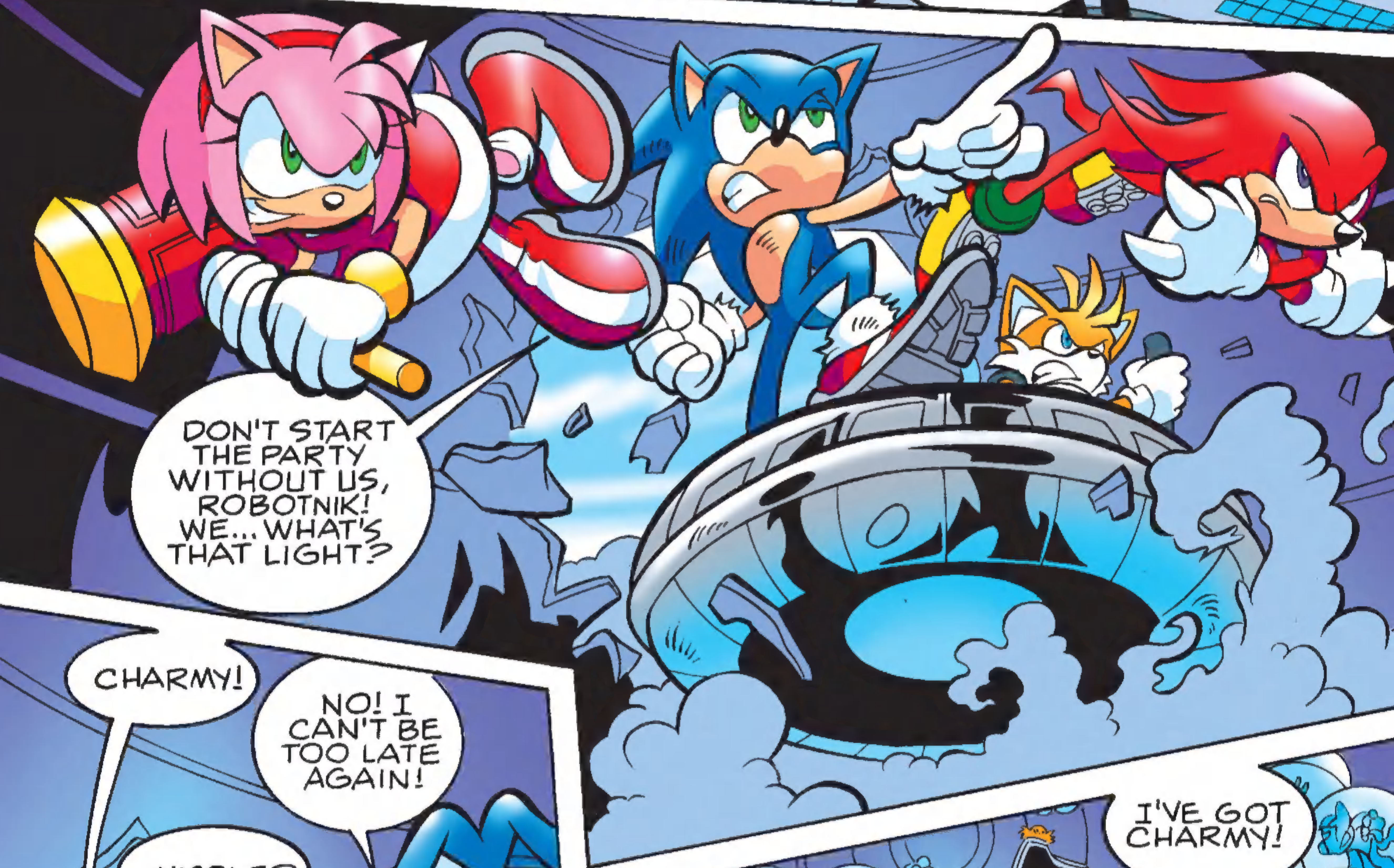
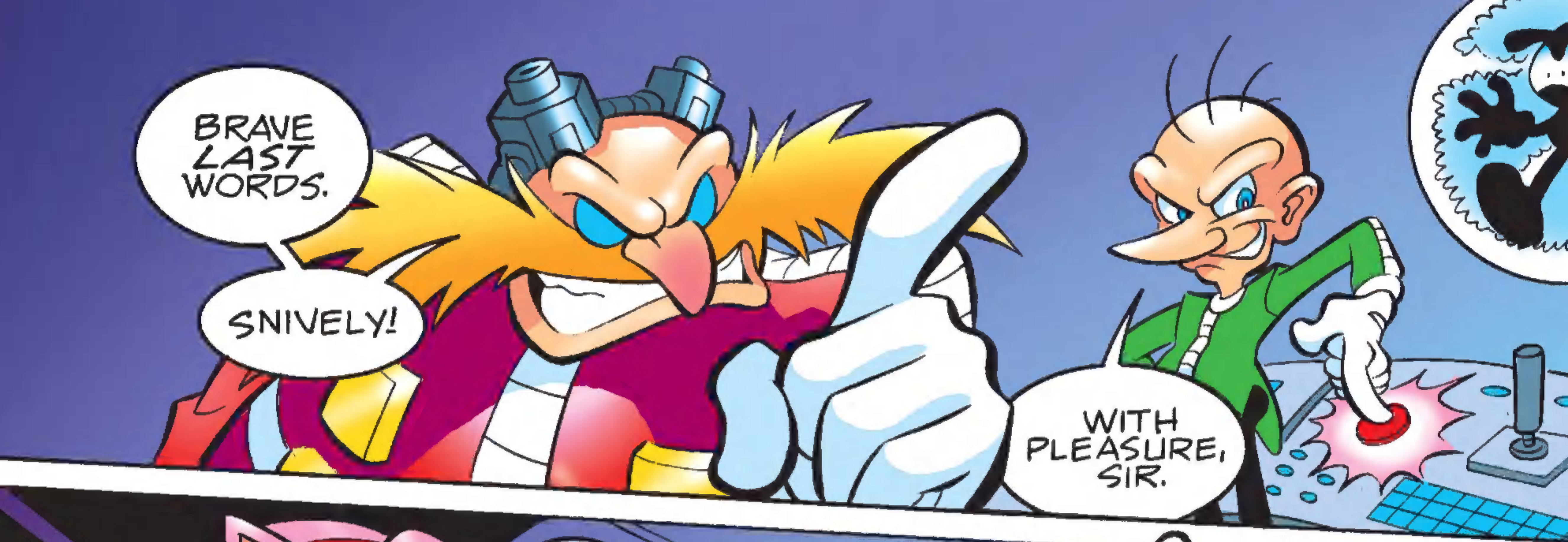
CHARMY BEE!
HAVEN'T I ALREADY
RUINED YOUR LIFE?
DESTROYED YOUR
KINGDOM OR SOME
SUCH--RIGHT?

YES,
YOU
HAVE.



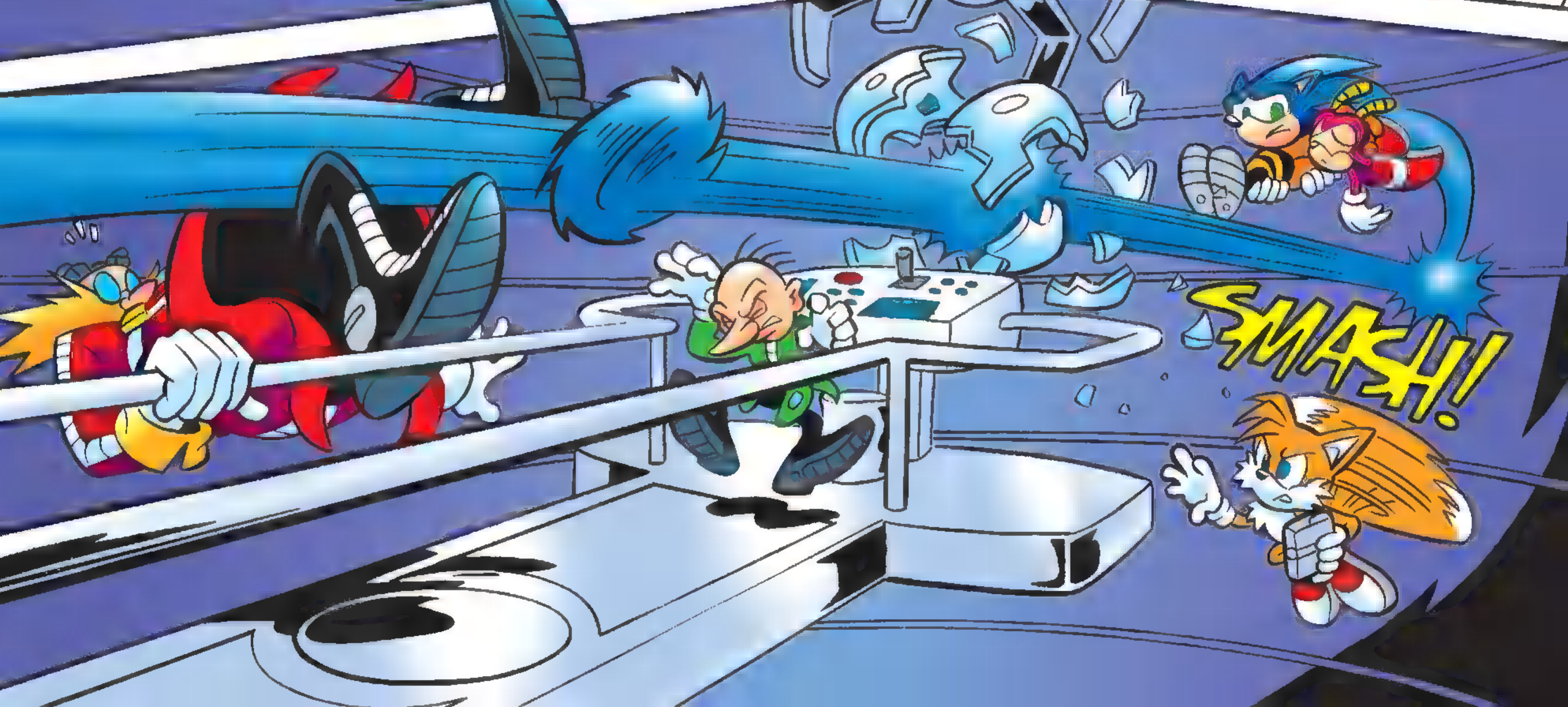
DESPITE ALL
THAT, I'VE FOUGHT
FOR OUR WORLD,
NO MATTER WHAT
YOU DO TO ME, I
WILL ***STILL*** FIGHT
FOR MOBIUS, AND
I'M NOT
ALONE!







NO!
YOU'RE
SUPPOSED TO
BE BEATEN!...
YOUR SPIRIT
BROKEN!





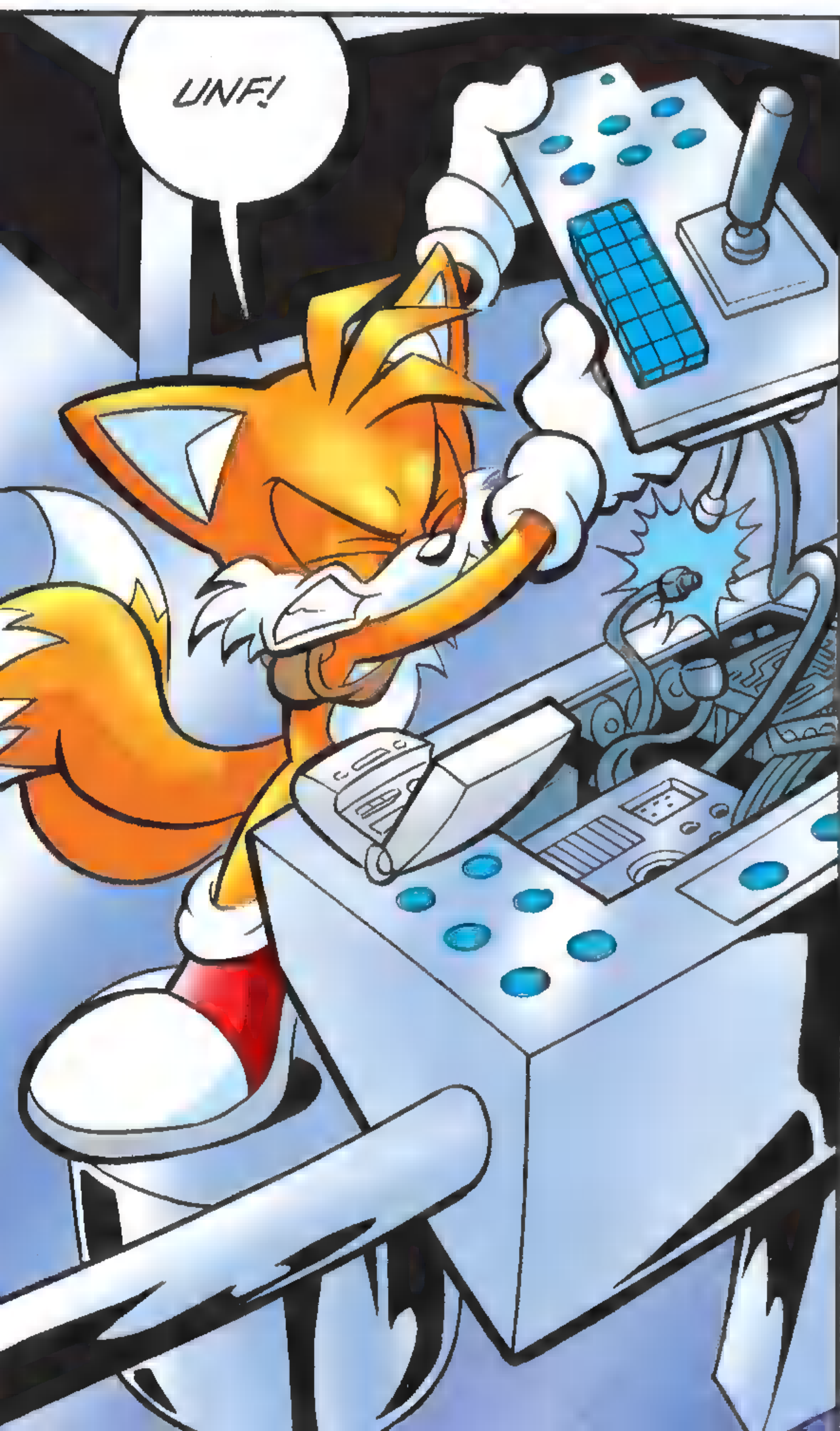
I'M GOING TO MAKE SURE CHARMY IS OKAY. YOU GET THAT MUCH OF A HEAD START, EGGMAN.



YOU SAID YOU'D CAUGHT THEM ALL! YOU MISSED THREE!

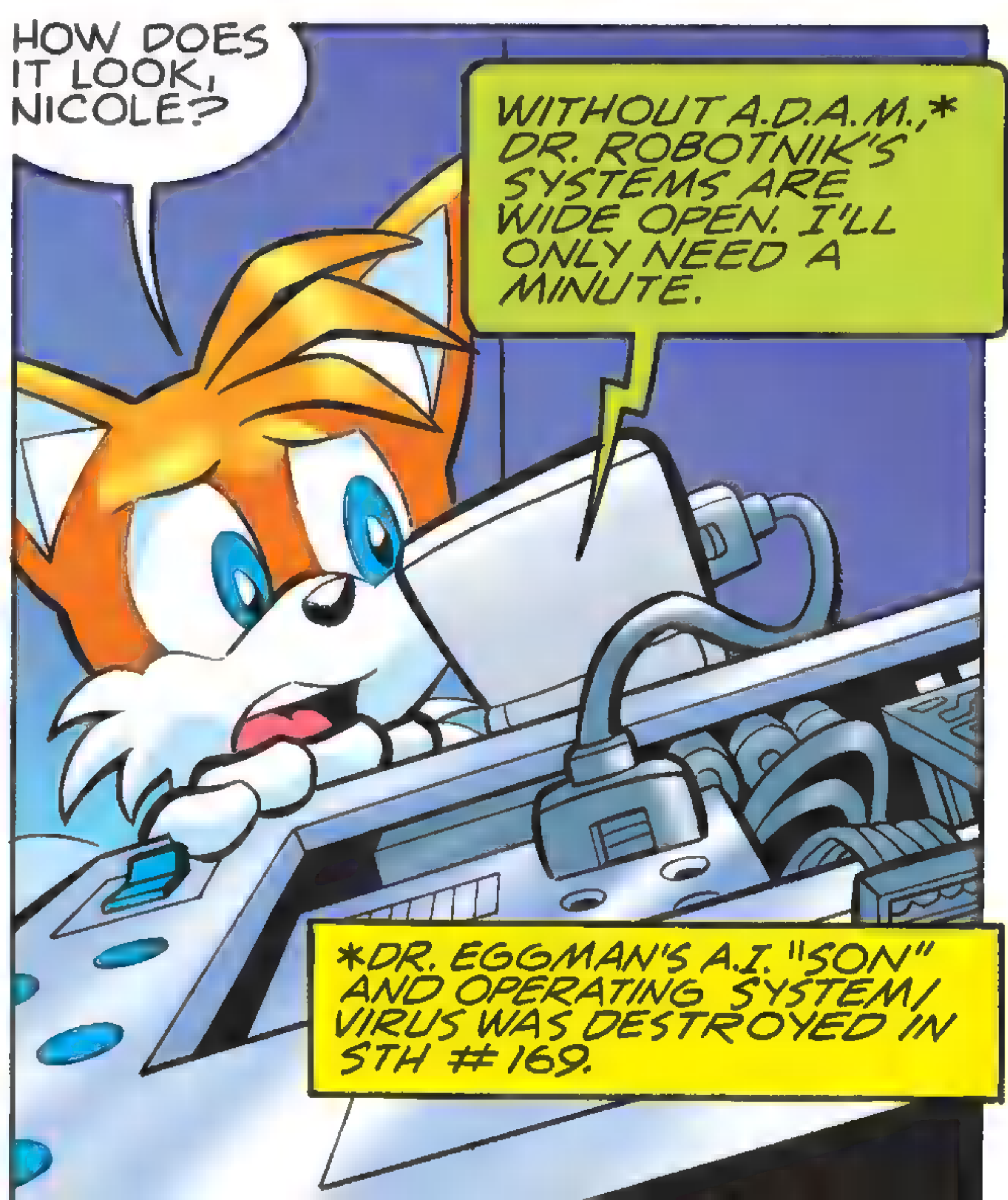
THREE OF HOW MANY HUNDRED ?!

SHUT UP AND RUN!



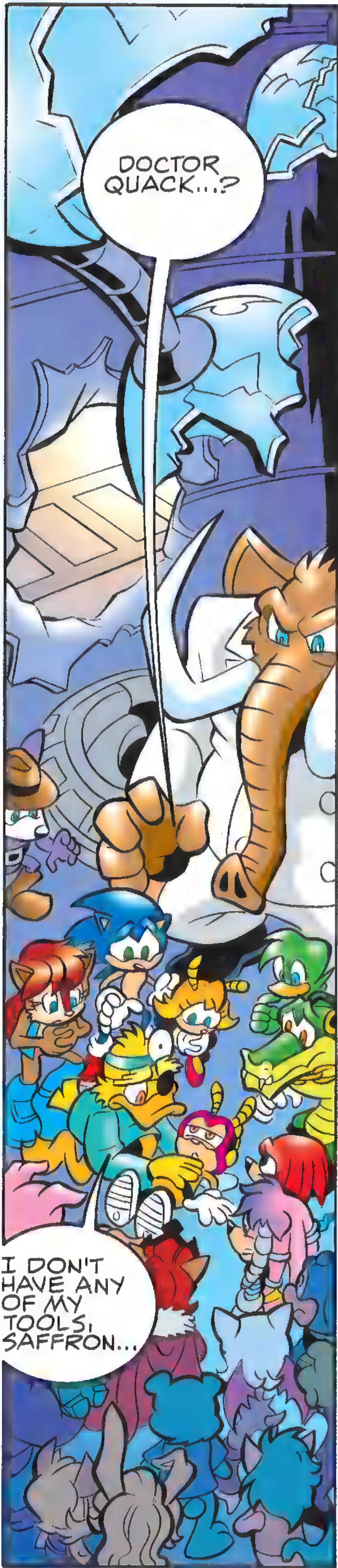
UNF!

HOW DOES IT LOOK, NICOLE?



WITHOUT A.D.A.M.,* DR. ROBOTNIK'S SYSTEMS ARE WIDE OPEN. I'LL ONLY NEED A MINUTE.

*DR. EGGMAN'S A.I. "SON" AND OPERATING SYSTEM/ VIRUS WAS DESTROYED IN STH #169.



WE HAVE
TO GO,
NICOLE.

I'VE DONE ALL I
CAN DO HERE.
I'LL FINISH
PREPARATIONS
BACK AT HOME.

HOME...?

I'M SORRY,
THERE'S NO
TIME TO
EXPLAIN.
STAY WITH
THE GROUP,
TAILS.

IF YOU
SAY SO. I
HOPE
YOUR
PLAN
WORKS...

THIS WAY,
EVERYBODY!
RIGHT BACK
THE WAY WE
CAME IN!

THERE'RE TOO
MANY OF US... TOO
CROWDED. MAYBE
IF WE PUT AS MANY
AS WE CAN ON THAT
SAUCER... THE FREEDOM
FIGHTERS AND CHAOTIX
...AND HOLD OFF
ANY --

NOPE.

"NOPE"?!

WE'VE GOT
A PLAN, SAL.
WE STICK
TOGETHER.



WHILE IT MAY USUALLY WORK FOR YOU, "RUN AWAY AS FAST AS YOU CAN" IS NOT A PLAN.

DID I SAY IT WAS MY PLAN?



NICOLE SAYS SHE'S DONE ALL SHE CAN HERE. I GUESS WE'RE READY FOR THE NEXT PART OF HER PLAN.

NICOLE CAME UP WITH THE PLAN?

WAY TO GO, TAILS!



EVERYONE! STICK TOGETHER!

DUDE, ABOUT EARLIER...

YEAH, SONIC, I...



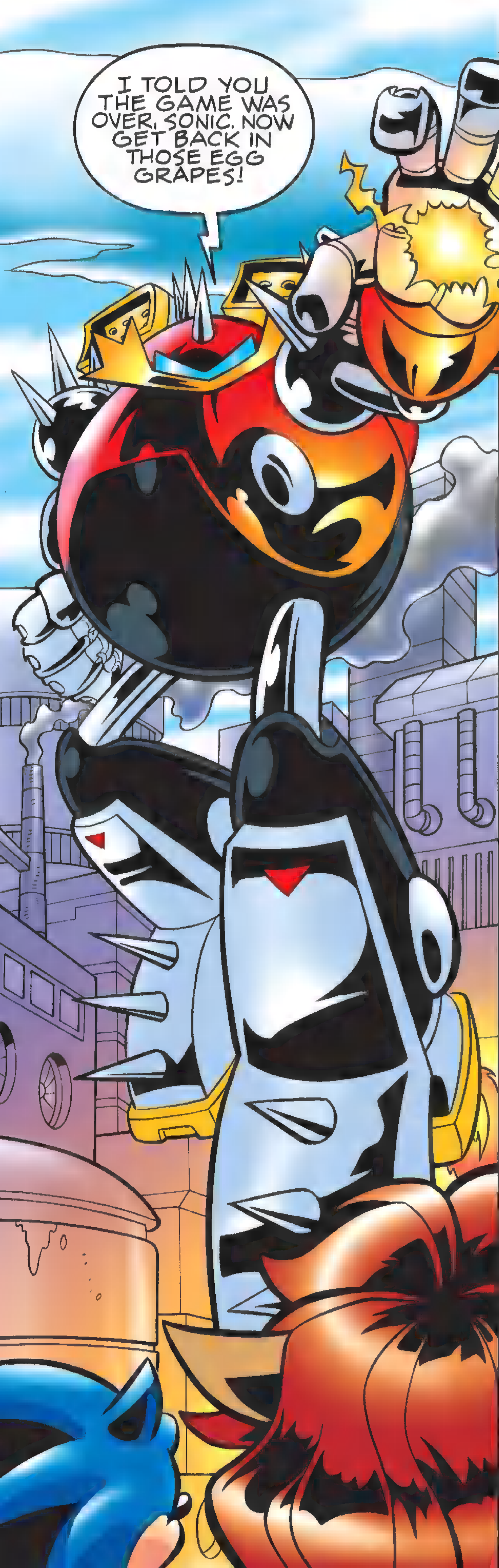
...OH...
...NO...

HOLD THAT THOUGHT...



WAS *THIS* PART OF THE PLAN, TOO?

BELIEVE IT OR NOT.

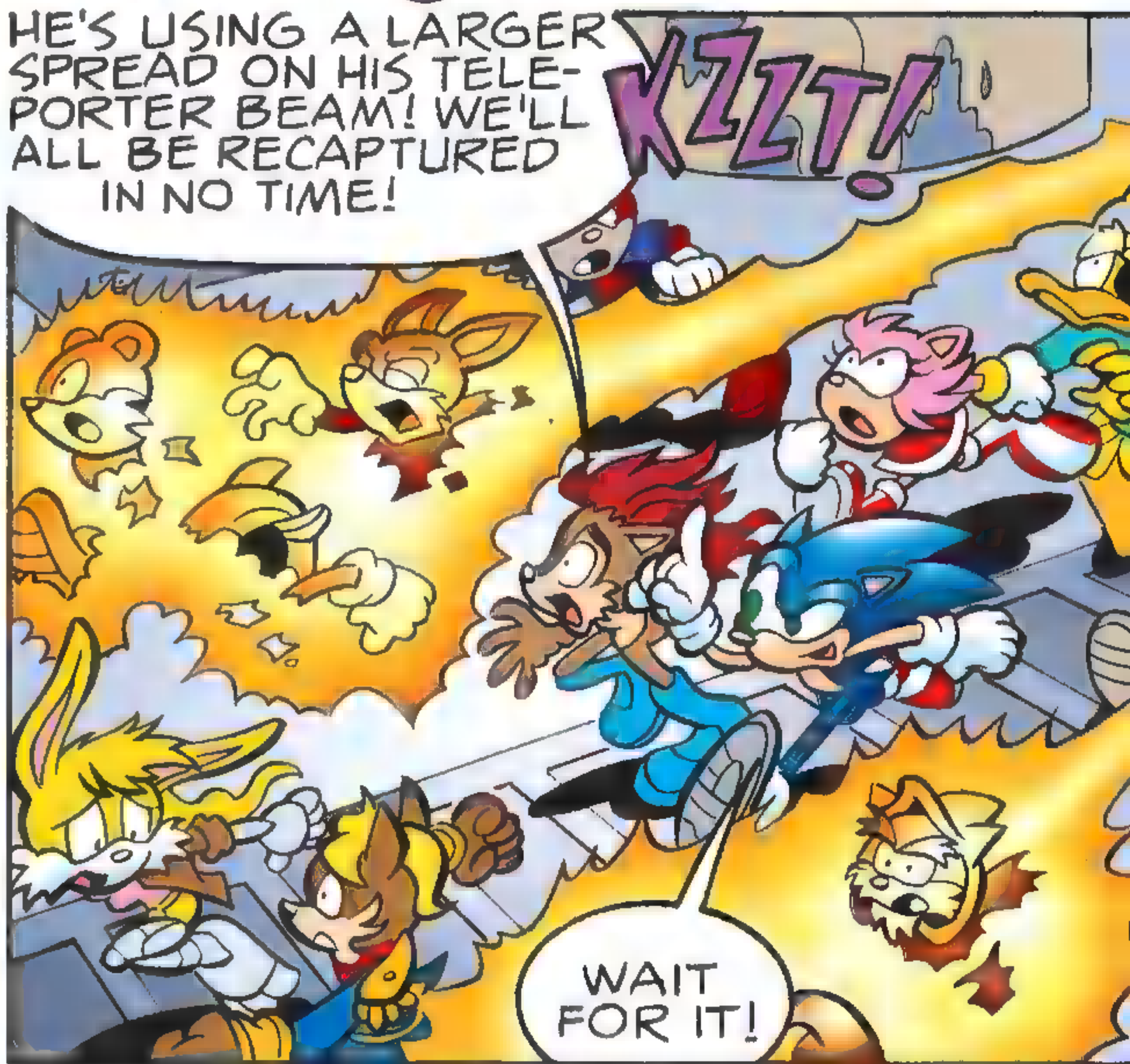


I TOLD YOU THE GAME WAS OVER, SONIC. NOW GET BACK IN THOSE EGG GRAPES!



EVERYONE BACK! TAKE THE FIRST ALLEY TO THE RIGHT! MOVE!

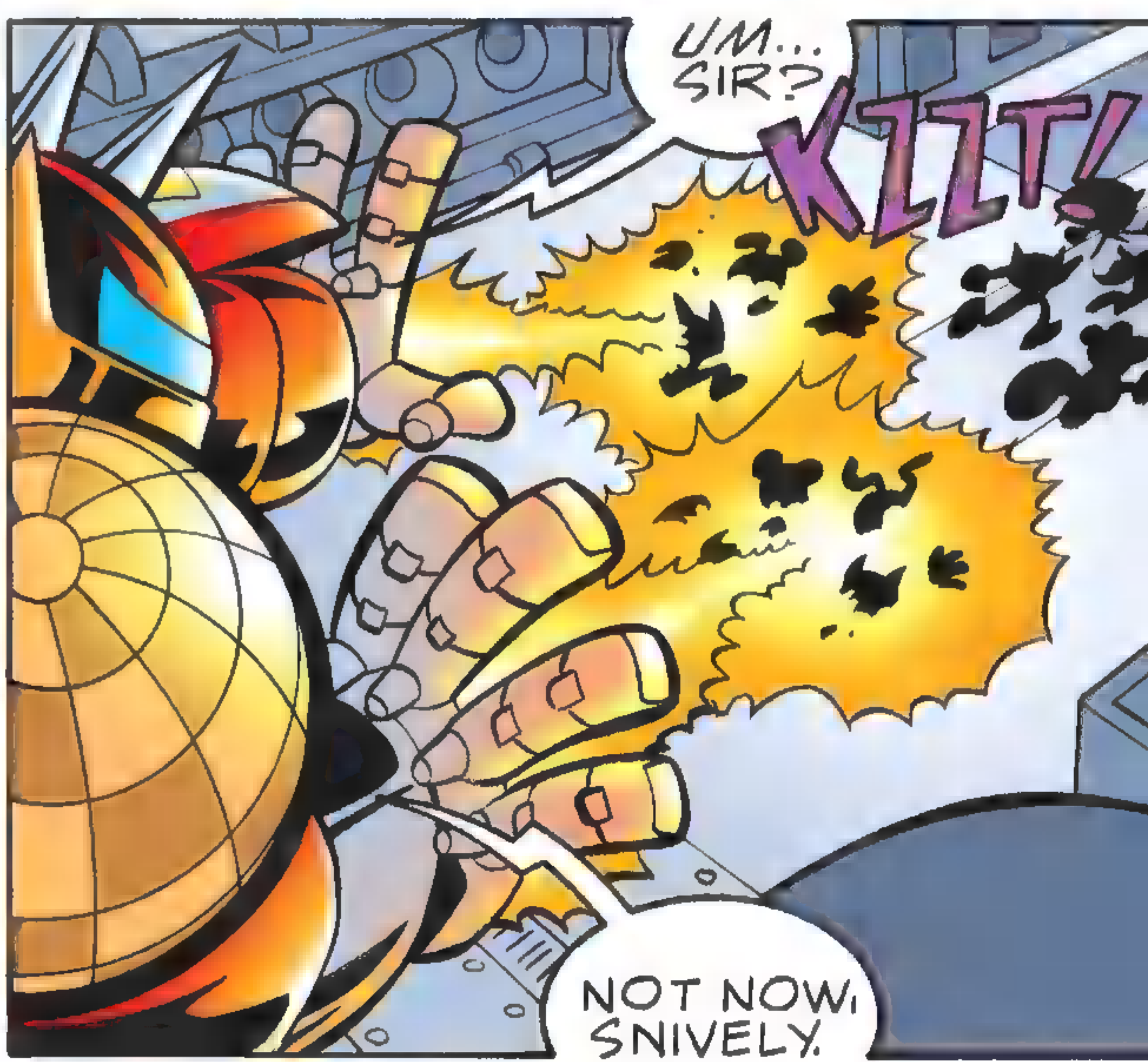
KZZT!



HE'S USING A LARGER SPREAD ON HIS TELEPORTER BEAM! WE'LL ALL BE RECAPTURED IN NO TIME!

KZZT!

WAIT FOR IT!



UM... SIR?


KZZT!

NOT NOW, SNIVELY.



I'VE
ALREADY
RECAPTURED
MOST OF
THEM...


KZZT!



...AND THE
REST ARE
TRAPPED
AT A DEAD
END!

BUT SIR! THE
TELEPORTING
BEAM IS...

OBVIOUSLY
WORKING! NOW
SHUT UP AND
LET ME
SAVOR THIS
MOMENT!



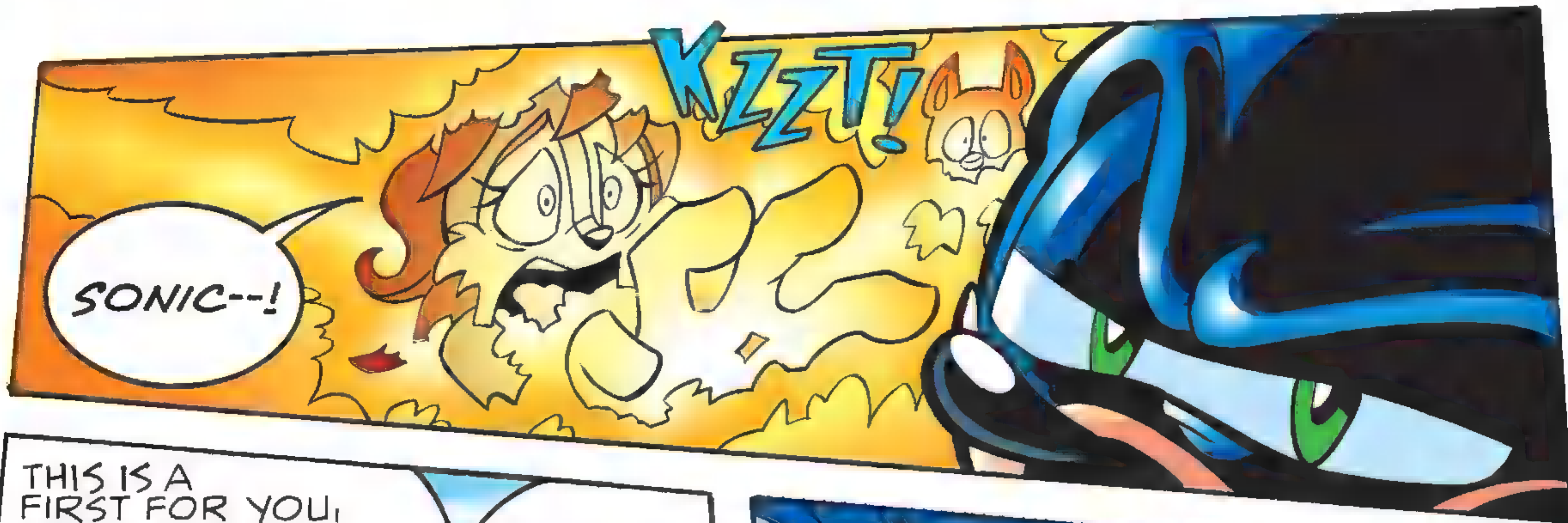
CAN YOU SPIN
DASH THROUGH THIS
WALL? MAYBE GET
US A WAY OUT?

PROBABLY,
BUT NOT
THIS TIME.

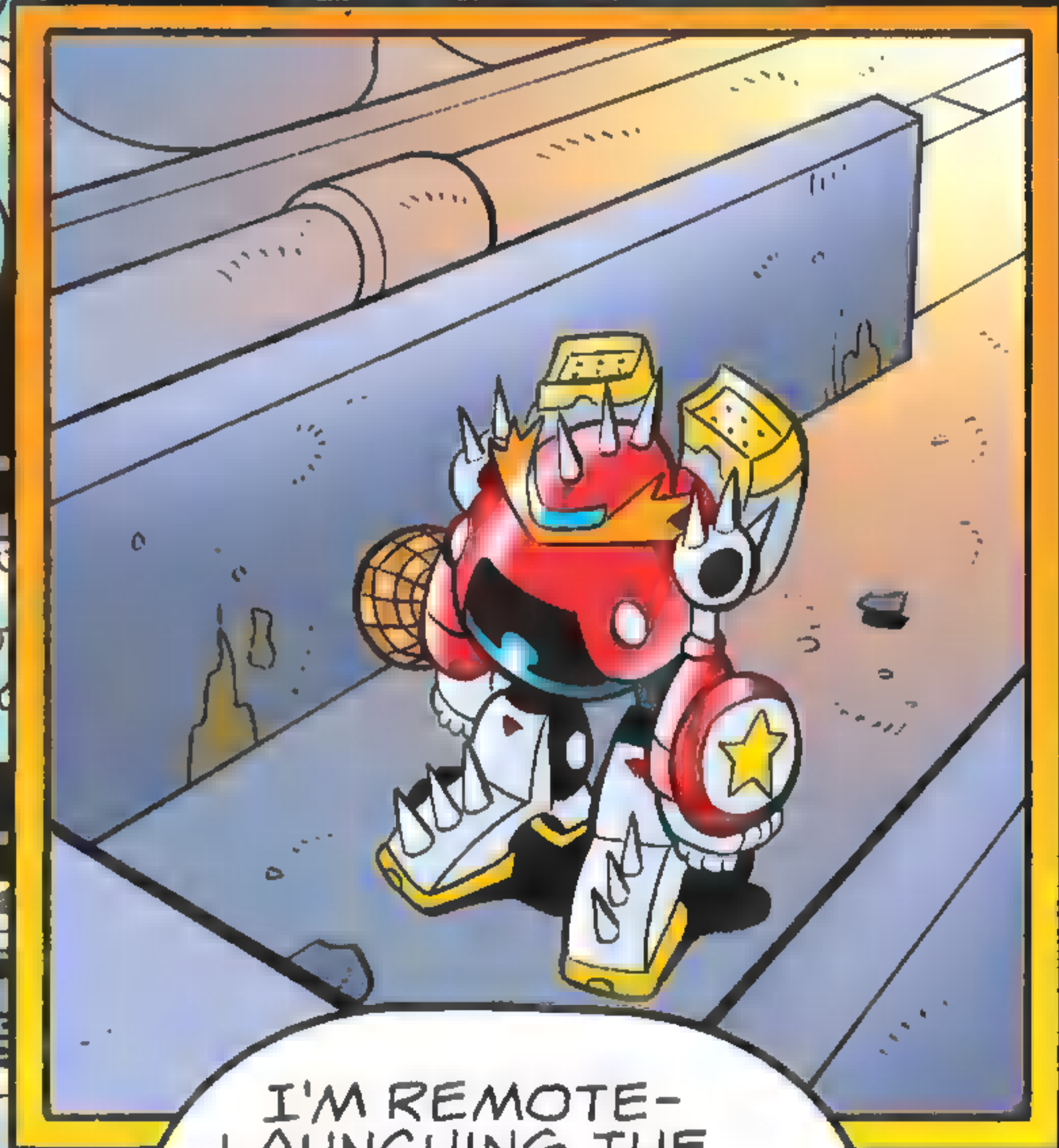


HAVE
YOU
LOST
YOUR
MIND
?!

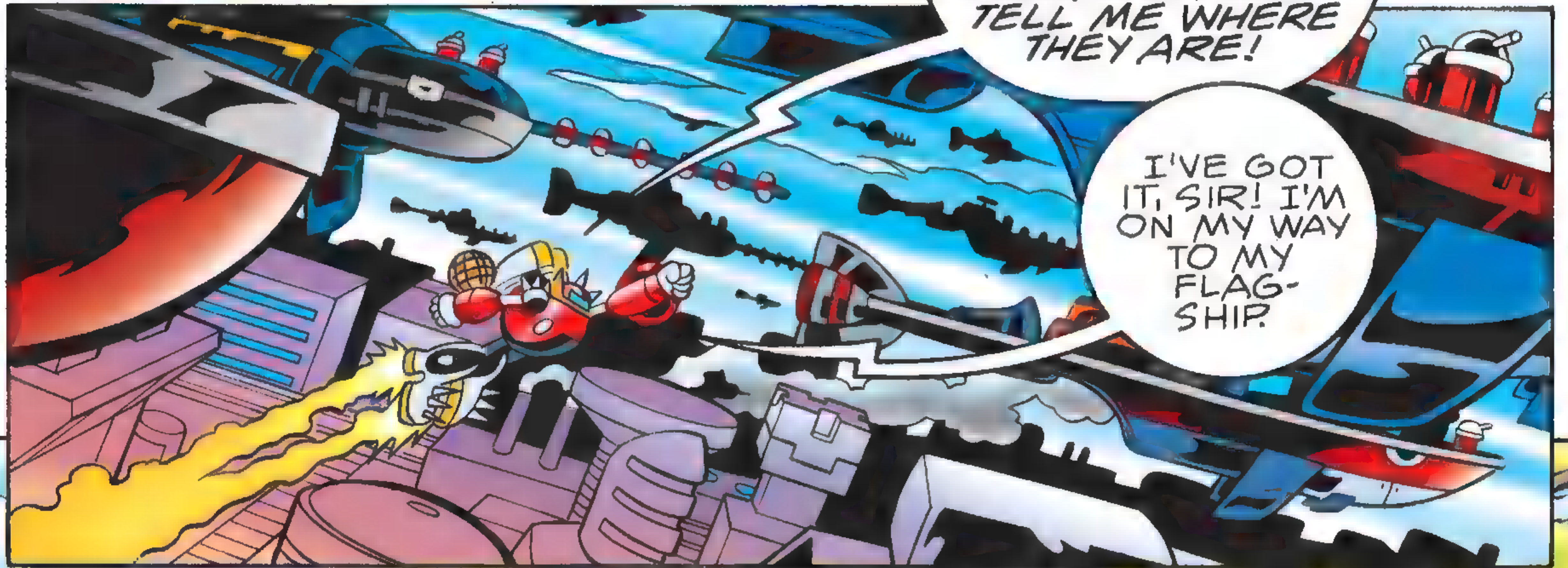
NO, BUT I CAN'T
EXPLAIN RIGHT
NOW. I DON'T
WANT ROBOTNIK
TO OVERHEAR
AND SPOIL THE
SURPRISE.



I'VE BEEN TRYING
TO TELL YOU THE
ENTIRE TIME! THE
TELEPORTATION
FREQUENCY WAS
TAMPERED WITH!
THERE'S NOBODY
IN THE RESERVE
EGG GRAPES!

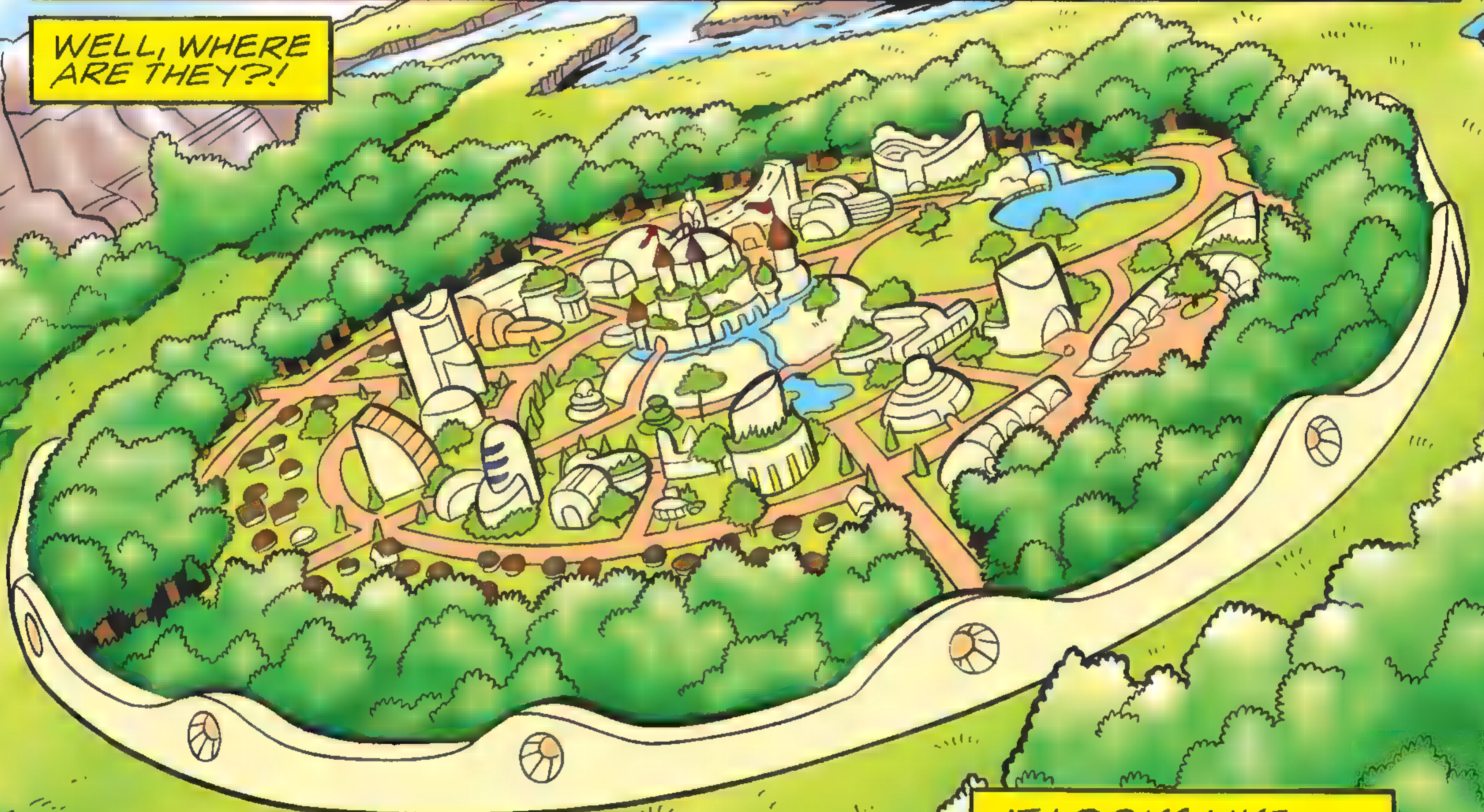


I'M REMOTE-
LAUNCHING THE
EGG FLEET NOW!
TRACK DOWN THAT
FREQUENCY AND
TELL ME WHERE
THEY ARE!

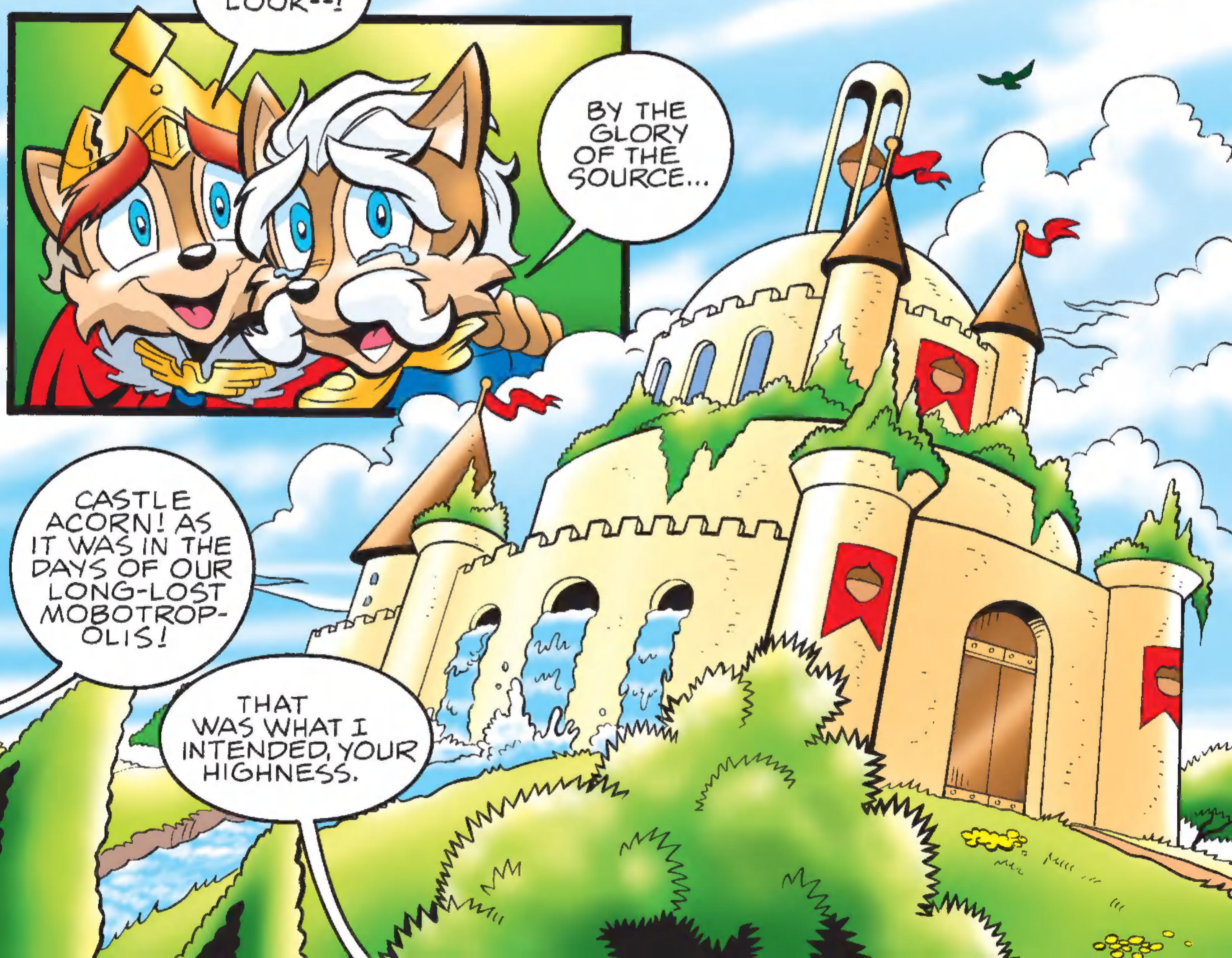


I'VE GOT
IT, SIR! I'M
ON MY WAY
TO MY
FLAG-
SHIP.

WELL, WHERE
ARE THEY?!



IT LOOKS LIKE...
THE NANITE CITY?!





...WHOA...



THIS WAS SOMETHING I'VE BEEN PREPARING FOR QUITE A WHILE NOW. DOCTOR ROBOTNIK'S EFFORTS HAVE FORCED ME TO REVEAL THIS BEFORE I WAS FINISHED, BUT ALL THE SAME... WELCOME TO NEW MOBOTROPOLIS! I WILL BE YOUR HOSTESS... NICOLE.

NICOLE!
I DIDN'T
THINK YOU
COULD
MAINTAIN
THAT
FORM.

I COULD
NOT UNTIL I
FOUND SOMETHING
ROBUST ENOUGH
TO MAINTAIN ME.
I BUILT ENOUGH
HOLOGRAPHIC
MATRIXES TO
GIVE ME FULL
USE OF THE
CITY.

GOOD
TO HAVE
YOU WITH
US--
AGAIN.

DOES THE
LAKE OF
RINGS
REALLY
WORK?

HOW DO YOU HAVE
THE POWER TO
SUPPORT A
PHYSICAL FORM?

IS IT JUST
LIKE OLD MOBO-
TROPOLIS?

WHAT
ARE OUR
DEFENSES
HERE?


I'LL ANSWER
EVERYTHING
IN TIME, I
PROMISE!

YOU'VE
ALREADY
DONE A GREAT
DEAL FOR US,
NICOLE.

AND ALL OF
YOU, AS WELL.
WITHOUT YOU, NONE
OF US WOULD'VE
MADE IT TO SEE
NICOLE'S
BEAUTIFUL
NEW CITY.

DO NOT
CONGRAT-
ULATE...

...ALL OF OUR ACHIEVE-
MENTS JUST YET,
PRINCESS. IT DID NOT
TAKE DR. ROBOTNIK
LONG TO FIGURE OUT
WHAT WE DID...



...AND HE HAS COME
TO FINISH WHAT HE
STARTED.

RIGHT WHEN YOU THOUGHT WE WERE GOING TO GET A HAPPY ENDING!
COME BACK IN THIRTY TO SEE IF *SONIC & CO.* WILL EVER ENJOY THEIR
"HOME, NEW HOME!"

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